



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/552,666	Troy J. Chapman	2901PCTUS(203-3634PCTUS)

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/US04/13273

I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
04/29/2004	05/01/2003

Mark Farber
 United States Surgical
 Division of Tyco Healthcare Group
 195 McDermott Road
 North Haven, CT 06473

CONFIRMATION NO. 7217

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC000000020091501

Date Mailed: 08/18/2006

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

<u>08/01/2006</u>	<u>08/01/2006</u>
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 10/04/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 10/04/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 10/04/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 01/17/2006
- Oath or Declaration filed on 08/01/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 10/04/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 10/04/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 10/04/2005
- Specification filed on 10/04/2005
- Claims filed on 10/04/2005

- Abstracts filed on 10/04/2005
- Drawings filed on 10/04/2005

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

KAREN R MCLEAN
Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 214

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)